563 also engaged in smuggling gold. In 1900 it came to a catastrophe when the Russian authorities drove all Chinese over the border. At Blagoveshchensk nearly 5,000 perished who were chased with force into the Amur. The building of cities and industry, however, drew them again and again into the country as workers, and many of these remained in the country as settlers or also as frugal artisans. Culturally they have had a very strong influence on the natives, who, like the [177] Udekhe in southern Sikhote-Alin', have not only taken over the material life of the Chinese but have even given up their language in favor of that of the Chinese. Chinese clothing and the Chinese houses have asserted themselves as far as the Gilyak on the lower Amur and stand everywhere in competition with Russian influence, [342] which gradually has asserted itself. The Chinese house, the 'fanse,' has mud walls. Its gabled roof is covered with straw. Almost the entire front side is taken up by large windows, pasted over with oil-paper and covered with bars; these windows can be slid out and removed. On the sides and along the back wall there are no windows. [354] In the interior of the 'fanse' a small stove with an iron boiler lies on each side of the door. Smoke ducts lead from these two stoves under [362] the sleeping places which built from stone and mud, extend along the walls and fill nearly half the room. This type of plank bed, designated a "kang," is approximately 0.50 meters high. From these the smoke ducts then lead to the chimney, which is likewise made of stone and mud. Because of the danger of fire, the chimney always stands alone and somewhat away from the house. It is not uncommon for the 'kang' to have its own heating also. The farm buildings are [351] usually attached to the house at right angles, and the square courtyard thus formed is closed off behind by a wall or a fence. The Chinese also like to mark off a rectangular area in front of the house, or to surround their entire lodging with a wall which is often very thick; the natives, however, mostly are satisfied with the house alone, which is often only a wretched, dirty mud hut, whatever the layout.

[162] Of the 87,999 Chinese who lived in Siberia in 1939, approximately half live in the southern Ussuri region; the remainder are mostly scattered in the cities. The number of women among the Chinese is very slight and amounts to only 6 percent. In the southern Ussuri region, therefore, the number of Chinese-Udekhe half-breeds is large; they are generally designated "tas."

The Korean element in the population is entirely different. Some old villages in the Pos'yet area have existed since time im-